

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 SCA-01 INSE-00

SIL-01 LAB-06 VOE-00 SS-20 NSC-07 SP-03 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 H-03 TRSE-00 /098 W

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P 072139Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3155

UNCLAS SECSTION 1 OF 2 MEXICO 6690

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, MX

SUBJ: ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS: ENGLISH TEXT OF EMBASSY PRESS
RELEASE

REF: MEXICO 6682

ENGLISH TEXT OF EMBASSY PRESS RELEASE AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE

ON JULY 26, 1974, AMBASSADOR JOSEPH JOHN JOVA, ON INS-
TRUCTIONS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, DELIVERED
A NOTE OF REPLY TO FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA'S NOTE OF JUNE
19, 1974, WHICH RELATED TO THE AGREEMENT TO SETTLE THE
COLORADO RIVER SALINITY PROBLEM AND THE CONTINUING PROBLEM
OF MEXICAN WORKERS ILLEGALLY IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE AMBASSADOR'S NOTE RECALLED THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES ON JUNE 24, 1974, APPROVED THE LEGISLATION
PERMITTING THE IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TERMS OF
MINUTE NO. 242 OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER
COMMISSION AS THIS MINUTE APPLIES TO THE DELIVERY OF WATERS
TO MEXICO AND EXPRESSED SINCERE PLEASURE OVER THE SPIRIT
OF GOODWILL AND ACCOMMODATION WHICH HAD MADE POSSIBLE
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES A NEGOTIATED PERMANENT AND
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DEFINITIVE SOLUTION TO THIS DIFFICULT PROBLEM.

THE NOTE EMPHASIZED HOW SERIOUSLY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED WITH THE PROBLEM OF LARGE NUMBERS OF MEXICAN WORKERS ILLEGALLY ENTERING THE UNITED STATES ANNUALLY SEEKING JOBS. IT POINTED OUT THAT AS A RESULT OF THE MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON IN JUNE 1972, A GROUP WAS ESTABLISHED IN EACH COUNTRY TO STUDY THIS PROBLEM IN DETAIL. ON JULY 16-17, 1973, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS MET IN WASHINGTON FOR A FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. THE UNITED STATES STUDY GROUP GAVE COPIES OF ITS REPORTS TO THE MEXICAN DELEGATION AND MADE THESE STUDIES PUBLIC AT THAT TIME.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, FOLLOWING FURTHER CONSULTATIONS, REASSESSED THE DESIRABILITY OF RE-ESTABLISHING A BRACERO-TYPE PROGRAM, WHICH HAD BEEN SUGGESTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO. THE LATTER GOVERNMENT WAS ADVISED THAT THERE EXISTS A SERIOUS UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION AMONG FARMWORKERS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THAT GREATER USE OF MECHANICAL AND CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY WILL LIKELY REDUCE FURTHER THE DEMAND FOR HAND LABOR IN AGRICULTURE. FOR THESE REASONS, VERY LIMITED NUMBERS OF IMPORTED WORKERS ARE NEEDED BY THE UNITED STATES TO MEET PEAK DEMANDS OF SHORT DURATION; ACCORDINGLY, THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT WAS INFORMED THAT THE UNITED STATES DID NOT CONSIDER A NEW BRACERO-TYPE PROGRAM A FEASIBLE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM.

THE UNITED STATES' REPLY POINTS OUT THAT WHEN THE FOREIGN SECRETARY'S NOTE OF JUNE 19, 1974, WAS RECEIVED, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ONCE AGAIN CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY OF A NEW AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT ALONG THE LINES SUGGESTED IN THAT GOVERNMENT'S NOTE. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AGAIN CONCLUDED THAT SUCH A NEW BRACERO-TYPE PROGRAM IS NOT FEASIBLE IN THE UNITED STATES AT THIS TIME. THE UNITED STATES HOPES THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO WILL BE WILLING TO COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED STATES IN EVERY OTHER POSSIBLE WAY IN A MAJOR EFFORT TO DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM WHICH IS OF SUCH IMPORTANCE TO BOTH COUNTRIES.

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IT WAS EARLIER SUGGESTED THAT OUR TWO COUNTRIES MIGHT

COOPERATE IN FINDING WAYS TO DISCOURAGE AND CONTROL THE INFLUX OF MEXICAN WORKERS INTO THE UNITED STATES. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN THE NUMBERS OF ILLEGAL ALIENS IN THE UNITED STATES WOULD INCREASE THE

EFFECTIVE DEMAND FOR IMPORTED LABOR AND, IN TURN, PAVE THE WAY FOR MORE EXTENSIVE APPLICATION OF PRESENTLY EXISTING PROCEDURES FOR LABOR CERTIFICATION AS A MEANS FOR THE LEGAL IMPORTATION OF WORKERS. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT THIS PROCESS WOULD PROVIDE AT LEAST A PARTIAL SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM. THE UNITED STATES' NOTE POINTS OUT THAT LARGE NUMBERS OF MEXICAN CITIZENS ENTER THE UNITED STATES LEGALLY EACH YEAR -- ALMOST 67,000 IN FISCAL YEAR 1974 -- FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING RESIDENCE AND SEEKING EMPLOYMENT.

THE UNITED STATES REPLY EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE, IN ANALYZING THIS PROBLEM, OF MAKING DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN TWO MAJOR ELEMENTS OF THE ISSUE. THE QUESTION OF A NEW BRACERO-TYPE PROGRAM IS ONE OF THESE ELEMENTS. AS INDICATED ABOVE, THE VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS THAT A NEW BRACERO-TYPE PROGRAM IS NOT AT PRESENT OR IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE A FEASIBLE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF MEXICAN WORKERS WHO WISH TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES. THE OTHER MAJOR PART OF THE PROBLEM IS THAT OF THE ILLEGAL ENTRY OF MEXICAN CITIZENS INTO THE UNITED STATES. UNITED STATES LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, IN THE EXERCISE OF THE UNITED STATES' SOVEREIGN AUTHORITY TO CONTROL IMMIGRATION INTO THE UNITED STATES, ARE REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN PHYSICAL FACILITIES TO COLLECT, PROCESS, AND RETURN TO MEXICO THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF MEXICAN NATIONALS APPREHENDED EACH YEAR FOR HAVING ENTERED THE UNITED STATES ILLEGALLY. THE VIEWS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO AS TO THE APPELLATION AND OPERATION OF THESE INSTALLATIONS HAVE BEEN NOTED, AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS CONSIDERING ALTERNATIVE DESIGNATIONS FOR THESE FACILITIES. THE UNITED STATES NOTE OF REPLY INVITES SUGGESTIONS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO ON PROCEDURES WHICH MIGHT BETTER COORDINATE PROCESSING

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OF THESE MEXICAN CITIZENS FROM UNITED STATES INSTALLATIONS INTO ANY MEXICAN RECEPTION PROGRAMS WHICH MAY NOW OR IN THE FUTURE EXIST TO HELP SUCH CITIZENS TO RETURN TO FRUITFUL PURSUITS IN MEXICO AND DESIST FROM SEEKING ILLEGAL ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES.

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 SCA-01 INSE-00

SIL-01 LAB-06 VOE-00 SS-20 NSC-07 SP-03 CIAE-00

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P 072139Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3156

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 MEXICO 6690

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, MX

SUBJ: ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS: ENGLISH TEXT OF EMABASSY PRESS
RELEASE

THE UNITED STATES REPLY STRESSES THE SINCERE CONCERN OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES THAT FAIR AND HUMANE TREATMENT BE GIVEN TO APPREHENDED ALIENS. THE UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE OFFERED TO PROVIDE OFFICE SPACE AT ITS CENTERS FOR USE BY MEXICAN CONSULAR OFFICIALS, AND MEXICAN CONSULAR OFFICIALS ARE NOW USING THESE FACILITIES TO THE EXTENT MEXICAN AUTHORITIES CONSIDER NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT UNDERSTANDS THAT THESE CONSULAR OFFICERS HAVE VOICED NO COMPLAINTS WITH RESPECT TO THE FOOD, THE ACCOMMODATIONS, OR THE TREATMENT ACCORDED MEXICAN NATIONAL WHILE AT THESE

PROCESSING CENTERS. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT INVITES THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO TO BRING TO ITS ATTENTION ANY SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING CASES OF ABUSE SO THAT APPROPRIATE REMEDIAL ACTION MIGHT BE TAKEN.

THE UNITED STATES REPLY ASSURES THE FOREIGN SECRETARY THAT THE UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE HAS UNDER CONSTANT REVIEW THE OPERATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT REPATRIATION CENTERS TO INSURE THEIR ORDERLY AND HUMANE
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FUNCTIONING. UNITED STATES CONSULAR OFFICIALS ASSIGNED TO CITIES IN NORTHERN MEXICO ALSO VISIT THE CENTERS, AND AN OFFICER OF THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY HAS RECENTLY RETURNED FROM A VISIT TO THE CENTERS AT EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA,

AND EL PASO, TEXAS. HE CONSULTED WITH MEXICAN CONSULAR OFFICIALS IN THE CENTERS, TALKED WITH DETAINED PERSONS, OBSERVED PROCEDURES, AND EXAMINED FACILITIES AT THE INSTALLATIONS. THE NOTE INVITES THE FOREIGN SECRETARY OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE TO VISIT THE CENTERS AT ANY TIME.

THE UNITED STATES REPLY POINTS OUT THAT THE PRESENCE OF LARGE NUMBERS OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS IMPOSES A VERY SUBSTANTIAL BURDEN UPON UNITED STATES TAXPAYERS AT FEDERAL, STATE AND MUNICIPAL LEVELS. IN VIEW OF THE MAGNITUDE AND THE SERIOUS NATURE OF THIS PROBLEM, THE NOTE EARNESTLY REITERATES THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO MOST SERIOUSLY CONSIDER WHAT MEASURES IT MAY TAKE TO PREVENT THE ILLEGAL ENTRY OF MEXICAN CITIZENS INTO THE UNITED STATES.

THE REPLY ASSURES THE FOREIGN SECRETARY THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO REVIEW THIS PROBLEM WITH THE MOST SERIOUS CONCERN, IN SEARCH OF THOSE POSSIBILITIES OF SOLUTION WHICH ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF BOTH COUNTRIES AS WELL AS THOSE OF THE INDIVIDUAL CITIZENS AFFECTED. IT FURTHER REITERATES THE UNITED STATES' STRONG DESIRE TO COOPERATE AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO ON THIS MATTER, WITHIN THE OVERALL CORDIAL AND FRIENDLY FRAMEWORK WHICH CHARACTERIZES THE TWO COUNTRIES' FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP.

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